

Attorney's Docket: 1999CH017/D
Serial No.: 10/762,982
Group: 1731

Amendments to the Claims

1. through 6 (cancelled)

7.(previously presented) Surface finishing agent for paper or board which is a solution (L_w) consisting essentially of:

a surface-finishing active ingredient (W) which consists essentially of (W_1) polyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight \overline{M}_w of > 1500 and optionally at least one further additive which is a further finishing additive and/or a formulation additive, and water; and

(F) where (F) is selected from,

(F_{11}) antifoams

and (F_{12}) agents for protecting against the damaging effect of microorganisms, and with a (W_1)-content in the range of 0.1 to 20 %.

8. (original) Surface finishing agent according to Claim 7 which is an antiyellowing agent for paper or board.

9. through 11 (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) Surface finishing agent for paper or board which is a solution (L_w) consisting essentially of:

a surface-finishing active ingredient (W) which consists of: (W_1) polyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight \overline{M}_w of > 1500 and at least one further additive which is selected from the group of : a further finishing additive, a formulation additive, or combinations thereof, and

water, and optionally at least one non-finishing formulation additive (F), where (L_w) contains: (F) or (W_3) a wet strength additive or (F) and (W_3), where (F) is (F_1) which is selected from the group of:

(F_{11}) antifoams

and (F_{12}) agents for protecting against the damaging effect of microorganisms.

13. through 16 (cancelled)

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17. (New) Surface finishing agent for paper or board which is an aqueous solution (L_w) consisting essentially of a surface-finishing active ingredient (W), water and optionally a non-finishing formulation additive (F);
wherein (W) consists of
(W_1) polyethylene glycol with an average molecular weight \overline{M}_w of > 1500

and optionally at least one further additive selected from the group consisting of at least one further finishing additive and a formulation additive, and wherein the at least one further finishing additive is at least one wet strength additive (W_3);
wherein the non finishing formulation additive (F) is selected from the group consisting of:
(F_{11}) antifoams; and
(F_{12}) agents for protecting against the damaging effect of microorganisms; and
wherein the (W)-content is $\geq 0.1\%$ by weight and $\leq 70\%$ by weight and the (W_1) content is $\leq 50\%$ by weight.
18. (new) Surface finishing agent according to claim 17, wherein the aqueous solution (L_w) is an aqueous concentrated solution with a (W)-content in the range of 5% to 70% by weight.
19. (New) Surface finishing agent according to claim 18, wherein (W) consists of (W_1) and any remainder to 100% by weight of at least one further finishing additive (W_2) and (W_3) or formulation additive (W_4), wherein
(W_2) is at least one dye and/or optical brightener; and
(W_4) is at least one agent for pH adjustment.
20. (new) Surface finishing agent according to claim 19, wherein (W) consists of (W_1) and (W_3).
21. (New) Surface finishing agent according to claim 18, wherein (W) consists of at least 30% of (W_1).

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22. (new) Surface finishing agent according to claim 18, comprising (F) and wherein the (W₁) content is in the range of 0.1 to 20%.

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